

**REMARKS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, the claims are revised to eliminate multiple claim dependency and in accordance with preferred U.S. format. No new matter is added. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is in order, and an early and favorable first action on the merits is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants hereby request any required extension of time not otherwise requested and hereby authorize the Director of Patents to charge any prescribed fee not otherwise provided for, including application processing, extension, and extra claims fees, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Robert J. Patch  
Reg. No. 17,355

745 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22202  
703-521-2297 (telephone)  
703-685-0573 (telecopier I)  
703-979-4709 (telecopier II)